

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 HONG K 14818 010844Z  
ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 SYE-00 MMO-01 /017 W  
-----017246 010847Z /21

P 010811Z DEC 77  
FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8009

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 14818

FOR SY/OPS/T FROM OIC/RTC

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: ASEC  
SUBJECT: TSO/RSO POSITION - PEKING

REF: STATE 223418

1. REGRET DELAY IN ANSWERING REFTEL. WISH TO ADVISE THAT  
OIC DISCUSSED ABOVE SUBJECT WITH RSS PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE  
TO CONUS, WITH RSO BOLES IN PEKING ON TWO OCCASIONS  
AND ALSO SOLICITED THE VIEWS OF TSO TATUM.

2. BASED ON THE ABOVE CONVERSATIONS AND ON APPROXIMATELY  
SIX WEEKS TOTAL THE OIC HAS SPENT IN PEKING IT IS JUDGED  
THAT THE TSO IS PERFORMING VERY FEW TECHNICAL SERVICES  
TO THE POST. THE QUESTION ALSO ARISES AS TO WHETHER  
OR NOT HE IS TO BE EXPECTED TO WORK BEYOND 8 HOURS,  
STRICTLY ON HIS OWN VOLITION, WHEN THESE SERVICES MIGHT  
BE REQUIRED. UNLESS THE PATTERN HAS CHANGED, OIC  
BELIEVES THAT THE WATCHSTANDERS ASSIST RSO BOLES DURING  
THE DAY ON A ROTATING WEEKLY BASIS, AND THIS SHOULD ALLOW  
THE TSO TIME DO ANY TECHNICAL WORK. TRUTHFULLY,  
HOWEVER, THERE DOES NOT SEEM TO BE MUCH TECHNICAL WORK  
TO DO. THE TECHNICAL EQUIPMENT PRESENTLY INSTALLED AND  
THE FEW SAFE CONTAINERS, NOTWITHSTANDING THE AUTOSCAN  
SYSTEM, CANNOT CONCEIVABLY OCCUPY A TSO FULL TIME. EVEN  
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PAGE 02 HONG K 14818 010844Z

IF A TSO IS ASSIGNED FOR THE SAKE OF THE AUTOSCAN SYSTEM HE  
REALISTICALLY CANNOT REPAIR THE SYSTEM ON SITE WITHOUT AN  
ASSORTMENT OF SPARE PARTS. THUS, A TOUR IN SUCH A  
POSITION WOULD NOT, IN MY ESTIMATION, SIGNIFICANTLY BROADEN  
ONE'S EXPERIENCE AS A TSO, BUT ONE WOULD BE EXPOSED TO  
THE VERY LIMITED RSO OPERATIONS.

3. AFTER THE MASS SATURATION OF TSO AND SEABEE MANPOWER DURING AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER, IT IS JUDGED THAT PROJECTED WORK AT THE USLO WOULD NOT APPEAR TO REQUIRE AN INORDINATE AMOUNT OF TIME. THIS BEING THE CASE, IT APPEARS THAT ALL TECHNICAL SERVICES IN THE FUTURE CAN BE HANDLED BY THE TOKYO TSO. IN THIS REGARD, WOULD LIKE TO RAISE THE QUESTION OF THE AUTOSCAN SYSTEM. DURING LAST VISIT, TEAM DEVOTED A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF MANPOWER AND TIME TO CONSTRUCT A TSO OFFICE AND WORK SPACE WHICH WOULD ALSO ACCOMMODATE AUTOSCAN SYSTEM. IF A TSO IS NOT TO BE CONSIDERED FOR REPLACEMENT, CAN SY TRAIN AN RSO TO MANAGE THE SYSTEM AND THUS RELY UPON TSO TOKYO FOR MAINTENANCE SERVICES? ALTERNATIVELY, WOULD SY DESIRE THAT THE SYSTEM BE REMOVED AND REINSTALLED AT ANOTHER DESERVING POST IN THE EA AREA?

4. TO CONCLUDE, SUGGEST THAT IT WOULD BE A WASTE OF TSO MANPOWER AND EXPERTISE TO REPLACE DAHARB WITH ANOTHER TSO UNLESS, OF COURSE, SY DESIRES TO CONSIDER CROSS-TRAINING UNDER RATHER LIMITED CONDITIONS.  
SHOESMITH

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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**TAGS:** ASEC  
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